

Message Text

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14

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 EB-11 COME-00 AGR-20 OMB-01 AID-20 TRSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9712

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMCONSUL TANGIER

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PFOR MO

SUBJ: AGRICULTURE MINISTRY ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON LANDS TO BE
RECOVERED

REF: RABAT 3482

1. SUMMARY. IN WAKE KING'S JULY 27 SPEECH, MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE WILL MAKE PUBLIC SOON LIST OF LANDS TO BE RECOVERED
BY GOM AND HAS INFORMED COLONS THAT GOM COMMISSIONS WILL
VISIT THEIR PROPERTIES IN NEAR FUTURE. AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION
SERVICE REPORTEDLY GEARING UP TO MANAGE THESE LANDS. WE
EXPECT PERFORMANCE OF NEWLY ACQUIRED FARMS TO BE SPOTTY,
DEPENDING ON ABILITY OF EXTENSION AGENTS TO MANAGE THEM.
SYSTEM AS ANNOUNCED IN JULY 27 SPEECH IS IMPROVISATION WHICH
WILL PROBABLY BE DISCARDED IF FOUND DEFICIENT. END SUMMARY.

2. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ISSUED COMMUNIQUE JULY 30 FOR
INFORMATION FOREIGN PERSONS AND COMPANIES AFFECTED BY
MARCH 2, 1973 DAHIR ON TRANSFER OF LAND TO GOM CONTROL.

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COMMUNIQUE SAID TO FORTHCOMING ISSUE OFFICIAL BULLETIN WILL

CARRY LIST OF FIRST TRANCHE OF LANDS TO BE RECOVERED, AND ON AUG. 6 COMMISSIONS WILL BEGIN VISITING PROPERTIES AND EVALUATING THEM. OWNERS OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES ADVISED TO BE PRESENT. SCHEDULE OF VISITS BY COMMISSIONS WILL BE POSTED AT PROVINCE HEADQUARTERS OF MINISTRY'S EXTENSION SERVICE. EVALUATION OF PROPERTY WILL BE FINAL WHETHER OR NOT OWNER OR REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT.

3. THERE ARE REPORTS THAT MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE GEARING UP FOR BIGGER TASK THAN IT HAS BEEN CALLED UPON TO HANDLE IN RECENT YEARS. SUMMER LEAVES ARE BEING CANCELLED AND OFFICIALS PREPARING FOR TAKEOVER.

4. FOLLOWING AUG. 15 DEADLINE FOR RECOVERY OF LANDS, GOM WILL HAVE TWO TO THREE MONTHS BEFORE PLOWING MUST BE COMPLETED AND WHEAT CROP PLANTED. ALTHOUGH PLOWING IN MODERN SUAHPR NORMALLY DONE IN LATE SUMMER, IS NOT ESSENTIAL THAT THIS TASK BE BEGUN PRIOR TO FALL RAINS. THUS, GOM COULD SPEND SUMMER GETTING ORGANIZED AND THEN PLOW AFTER FIRST RAINS THIS FALL. IN ANY CASE, WHEAT SEED MUST BE IN GROUND BY LATE OCTOBER OR EARLY NOVEMBER.

5. ASSUMING GOM DOES TAKE OVER MANAGEMENT OF THE 170,000 HECTARES, PERFORMANCES OF NEWLY ACQUIRED FARMS WILL PROBABLY VARY DEPENDING ON QUALITY OF LOCAL EXTENSION AGENTS AND OF WORKERS FORMERLY EMPLOYED BY FRENCH COLONS. PRESUMABLY, GOM WILL BE ABLE TO BUY TRACTORS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT FROM COLONS, AND SEEK AND FERTILIZER ALSO AVAILABLE. TASK FACING MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE IS ONE OF ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT.

6. DESPITE KING'S STATEMENT THAT FARMS WOULD BE LOCALLY MANAGED, PROGRAM AS ANNOUNCED REPRESENTS, TO SOME EXTENT, RETURN TO STATE FARM CONCEPTS OF LATE 1950S AND EARLY 1960S. IN PILOT AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS ANNOUNCED IN JULY 8 SPEECH, KING PROPOSED THAT TWO-THIRDS OF FARM'S REVENUE GO TO COMMUNE AND ONE-THIRD TO STATE. ACCORDING JULY 27 ADDRESS COMMUNES WILL RECEIVE ONLY TEN TO TWENTY PER CENT.

7. PROGRAM THUS FAR APPEARS TO BE IMPROVISATION IN WHICH KING'S DESIRE TO TAKEOVER LANDS HAS BEEN ADAPTED TO MANIFEST INABILITY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF COMMUNES, IN THEIR PRESENT STATE OF ORGANIZATION, TO MANAGE THEM. IN ALL PROBABILITY, KING IN NO WAY WEDDED TO SYSTEM OUTLINED IN JULY 27 SPEECH, AND WILL DISCARD IT QUIETLY IF IT

PROVES DEFICIENT.
PARKER

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